GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants - Sri K. Pumachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired in June 2019) - Allegations of irregularities in issuing dispatch permits without verifying the proper excavations in the respective leased areas leading to misuse of dispatch permits -Departmental action Under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification Control and Appeal) Rules 1991 r/w Rule (9) of A.P Revised Pension Rules, 1980- Articles of Charges- Issued.

INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE (VIGILANCE) DEPARTMENT

G.O. Rt. No.50 **Dated:29/02/2024**

Read the following:

1. From the DG (V&E) & EO Prl.Secy to Govt, GA (V&E) Dept.,Vigilance report No.23 (C.No.3929/V&E/NR/2022), dt.30.06.2023.
2. G.O.Ms.No.26, Ind & Com (Vig) Dept., dt.29-02-2024.
3. G.O.Rt No.48, Ind & Com (Vig) Dept., dt.29-02-2024.

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ORDER:-

In pursuance of the sanction accorded by the Government under sub-clause (i) of clause (b) of sub rule (2) of Rule 9 of Revised Pension Rules, 1980 for initiating departmental action against Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retd.) vide reference 2nd read above, it is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired) in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991. The enquiry shall be conducted/ caused to be conducted by Principal Secretary to Govt. (Mines), AP Secretariat, Velagapudi.

2. The substance of the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure-I) and the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in support of each article of charge is enclosed(Annexure-II). A list of documents by which and a list of oral witnesses by whom the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure III & IV).

3. Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired) is directed to submit his written statement of defense within ten days of the receipt of this order and also state whether he desires to be heard in person.

4. He is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of

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charge as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired) is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense on or before the date specified in para (3) above, or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control, and Appeal) Rules, 1991 or orders/ directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the Inquiring Authority may hold the inquiry against him ex-parte.

6. Attention of Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired) is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings, it will be presumed that he is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

7. The receipt of this order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri K.Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines and Geology, Kurnool (Retired) through the Director of Mines And Geology Department, Vijayawada (with a request to serve the order on the individual and send the served copy with dated signature to Government)

The Director of Mines & Geology, B Block (Vth and VIth Floors), Anjaneya Towers, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, Krishna District.

Copy To:

The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, APVC, Velagapudi.

Sc/Sf

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

K. Rosha
SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI K. PURNACHANDRA RAO, THE THEN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES AND GEOLOGY, KURNOOL

That, Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, while working as Asst. Director of Mines & Geology, Kurnool during the period 21-08-2015 to 04-01-2017, the following irregularities have taken place:

Charge-I

Issued dispatch permits for a quantity of 1,41,750 Metric Tons of Quartz to the lease holder M/s Vee Jee Mines and Minerals, 16,000.00 Metric Tons of Quartz to the lease holder Sri K.Maheswara Reddy and 31,709.00 Metric Tons of Quartz to the lease holder Sri P.V.Ramana Reddy without verifying the proper excavations in their respective leased areas which led to misuse of dispatch permits.

Thus, the delinquent Officer Sri K. Purnachandra Rao, the then Asst. Director of Mines & Geology, Kurnool, by his above mentioned acts failed to perform his legitimate duties and he is held responsible for the same and violated Rule 3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules 1964.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

(P.T.O)

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI K. PURNACHANDRA RAO, THE THEN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MINES & GEOLOGY, KURNOOL

Based on the request of the Director of Mines & Geology, the Honorable Minister for Mines/Revision Authority has directed Vigilance and Enforcement Department to conduct enquiry on the Quarry leases held by (1) M/s. VEEJEE Mines & Minerals Mg.P. Sri G. Jayadeva located in Sy.No.557 of Hattibelagal (V), Alur (M) of Kurnool (Dist) over an extent of 22.284 Hectares (2) Sri K.Maheswar Reddy located in Sy.No.560 of Chunchu Yerragudi (V), Krishnagiri (M) of Kurnool (Dist) over an extent of 4.500 Hectares (3) Sri P.V. Ramana Reddy located in Sy.No.236 of Chelleli chelimala (V), Devanakonda (M) of Kurnool (Dist) over an extent of 11.660 Hectares.

Vigilance and Enforcement Department, Kurnool unit Officials along with the concerned officials of O/o ADMG, Kurnool and Revenue officials conducted inspection on above said Quarry Leases and observed the following violations in respect of the below stated lease holders.

1. M/s. VEEJEE Mines & Minerals : Misused 6,96,121.463 MTs of Quartz transit permits to transport the Quartz Mineral from other areas by violating Rule 12(5)(h)(iii) of APMMC Rules, 1966 and excavated and transported 10454.98 Cbm of Gravel from the Quarry Lease area without obtaining permission from the concerned authorities and without payment of Seigniorage fee to the Government and violated Rule 26(2)(i) of APMMC Rules, 1966.

2. Sri K. Maheswar Reddy : Misused 82,806.80 MTs of Quartz transit permits to transport the Quartz Mineral from other areas by violating Rule 12(5)(h)(iii) of APMMC Rules, 1966 and excavated and transported 3,616.00 MTs of Quartz and 2103.20 Cbm of Gravel from outside the Quarry lease area by violating Rule 26(1) of APPMC Rules, 1966 and excavated and transported 7769.55 Cbm of Gravel from the Quarry lease area without obtaining permission from the concerned authorities and without payment of Seigniorage fee to the Government by violating Rule 26(2)(i) of APMMC Rules, 1966.

3. Sri P.V. Ramana Reddy : Misused 72,178.41 MTs of Quartz transit permits to transport the Quartz Mineral from other areas by violating Rule 12(5)(h)(iii) of APMMC Rules, 1966 and excavated and transported 374 MTs of Quartz from outside the leased area illegally by violating Rule 26(1) of APPMC Rules,1966 and excavated and transported 1722.40 Cbm of Gravel from the Quarry lease area without obtaining permission from the concerned authorities and without

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payment of Seigniorage fee to the Government by violating Rule 26(2)(i) of APMMC Rules, 1966.

On verification of dispatch permits issued by the Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Kurnool to the above lease holders, it was observed that abnormal Quartz dispatch permits were issued from 2012-13 to 2016-17 up to 10.01.2017. On observation of dispatch permits issued by the concerned ADMGs during the above period, Sri K.Purnachandra Rao, the then Assistant Director of Mines & Geology Kurnool, during the period from 21.08.2015 to 04.01.2017 issued dispatch permits for a quantity of 1,41,750 MTs of Quartz to the lease holder M/s Vee Jee Mines and Minerals and for a quantity of 16,000.00 MTs of Quartz to the lease holder Sri K.Maheswara Reddy and for a quantity of 31,709.00 MTs of Quartz to the lease holder Sri P.V.Ramana Reddy without proper verification of stock available in the Quarry lease areas or failed to verify whether they have excavated the Quartz mineral in the leased areas or not which led to misuse of dispatch permits by the lease holders.

Thus, the Government servant Sri. K. Purnachandra Rao, the then ADMG Kurnool by his above mentioned acts failed to discharge his legitimate duties with due care and violated Rule (iii) of APCS (conduct) Rules, 1964.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE-III

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE:-

1.	Vigilance Report No.23(C No.3929/V&E/NR/2022 Dt:30.06.2023)
2	Panchanama Dt:09.09.2022, conducted during the inspection of Quarry lease of Sri K. Maheswara Reddy.
3	Lr. No.5513/M4/2000 Dt:27.01.2023 of ADM&G Kurnool, Addressed RV&EO, Kurnool.
4	Inspection report on Quarry lease held by M/s. Veejee Mines and Minerals by Sri. G. Venkateswara Rao, Assistant Geologist and G. Sreenivasa Reddy Royalty Inspector O/o. ADMG Kurnool.
5	Approved Mining Plan of leased area of M/s. Veejee Mines & Minerals vide Lr. No.2278/MS-KNL/2016, Dt: 02.11.2018 of DDMG, Kurnool.
6	Approved Mining Plan of leased area of Sri K.Maheswara Reddy vide Lr. No.7396/MP-KNL/2009, Dt:12.01.2010 of JDMG, Kurnool.
7	Modified Mining plan of leased area of Sri K. Maheswara reddy vide Lr.No. 1204/MD-MP-KNL.2014, Dt:20.06.2014 of JDMG, Hyderabad.
8	Survey Report of the Quarry Lease of Sri K. Maheswara Reddy Dt:21.01.2020.
9	Panchanama Dt:10.11.2022 conducted during the inspection of Quarry lease of Sri K. Maheswara Reddy.
10	Lr.No.2223/M4/2007 Dt:06.02.2023 of ADMG, Kurnool addressed to RVEO, Kurnool.
11	Inspection report of Sri G. Venkateswara Rao, Assistant Geologist and G. Sreenivasa Reddy, Royalty Inspector, O/o ADMG Kurnool on Quarry lease held by M/s K. Maheswara Reddy
12	Inspection report Dt:10.01.2017 of Royalty Inspector O/o. DDMG Kurnool, Royalty Inspector, Dhone check post and Surveyor O/o. ADMG Kurnool.
13	Approved Mining Plan of leased area of Sri P.V. Ramana Reddy vide Lr. No. 35841/MP-1/2001, Dt:23.01.2002 of JDMG, Hyderabad.
14	Approved Mining Scheme of leased area of Sri P.V. Ramana reddy vide Lr. No:5342/MS-KNL/2012, Dt: 28.02.2013 of JDMG, Hyderabad.
15	Lr.No.3319/M4/2002 Dt: 06.02.2023 of ADMG, Kurnool addressed to RVEO, Kurnool.
16	Inspection report of Sri G.Venkateswara Rao, Assistant Geologist and G. Sreenivasa Reddy, Royalty Inspector O/o. ADMG Kurnool on Quarry lease held by M/s P.V. Ramana Reddy.
17	Survey report Dt:21.01.2023 on the Quarry Lease held by Sri P.V. Ramana Reddy.
18	Panchanama Dt:18.11.2022 conducted during the inspection of Quarry lease of Sri P.V. Ramana Reddy.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE-IV

List of Witnesses:

1.	Smt V. Nagini, the then ADM&G, Kurnool.
2.	Sri G. Venkateswara Rao, the then Asst. Geologist O/o. ADM&G, Kurnool.
3.	Sri G. Sreenivasa Reddy, the then Royalty Inspector O/o ADM&G, Kurnool.
4.	Smt K. Seethammabai, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Kurnool.
5.	Sri Sk. Abdulla, Out Sourcing Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Kurnool
6	Sri P. Srinivas, the then Surveyor, O/o ADM&G, Banaganapalli.
7	Sri M. Govinda Rao, the then Supervisor, O/o. DDM&G, Kurnool.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT